



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

09/920,236

07/31/2001

Norman Yamamoto

081400-003

5853

21836

7590

08/09/2007

HENRICKS SLAVIN AND HOLMES LLP  
SUITE 200  
840 APOLLO STREET  
EL SEGUNDO, CA 90245

EXAMINER

AHMAD, NASSER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1772

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/09/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|                              |                                      |   |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b><br>09/920,236 | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>YAMAMOTO, NORMAN |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b><br>Nasser Ahmad      | <b>Art Unit</b><br>1772                 |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-12,14,15,17,20-26 and 29-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-12,14,15,17,20-26 and 29-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No: \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                 | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                        | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

Art Unit: 1772

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Rejections Withdrawn***

1. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8, 9-10, 12, 14, 20-21, 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kroll (US006578499B2) made in the Office Action of 2/23/2007 has been withdrawn in view of the amendment filed on 5/15/2007.
2. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Phillips (US006464821B1) made in the Office Action of 2/23/2007 has been withdrawn in view of the Amendment.
3. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Rudin (US006187405B1) made in the Office Action of 2/23/2007 has been withdrawn in view of the Amendment.
4. Claims 3,11, 15, 22, 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kroll made in the Office Action of 2/23/2007 has been withdrawn in view of the Amendment.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 4-12, 14-15, 17, 20-26 and new claims 29-34 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 9-12, 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cooprider (5972155).

Cooprider relates to a printable media (figure-1) comprising an at least substantially opaque sheet (20 and col. 4, lines 46-47) defining a front side, a rear side and at least first and second intersecting side edges (*figure-3 shows a first side, a second side, and figure-1 shows the sheet having first and second intersecting side edges*), each of said first and second edges defining opposing longitudinal ends (*figure-1 shows the side edges to have opposing longitudinal ends*), one of longitudinal ends of each of the first and second longitudinal side edges defining a common longitudinal end (as shown in figure-1); a substantially continuous first strip of adhesive (40) material on one of the front and rear sides of the at least substantially opaque sheet adjacent to the first side edge (24) and extending substantially from one longitudinal end of the first side edge to the other longitudinal end of the first side edge; and a substantially continuous second strip of adhesive material (col. 5, lines 17-20) on one of the front and rear sides of the at least substantially opaque sheet adjacent to the second side edge (21) and extending substantially from one longitudinal end of the second side edge to the other longitudinal end of the second side edge.

Art Unit: 1772

For claim 10, the opaque sheet comprises paper sheet (col. 4, lin 48).

For claim 11, the opaque sheet is 200 to 1000 sqcm (col. 4, lines 35-42), which includes the claimed size.

As for claim 12, the adhesive material comprises pressure sensitive adhesive (col. 6, line 8).

For claim 17, the above explanation for claim 9 provides for the printable media of claim 17. Additionally, Cooprider also teaches that first and second liners (50, 50) respectively covering the first and second strips of adhesive material (40, 40); and that a liner corner member (*the portion of the liner 50 at the common longitudinal end is interpreted to be the liner corner member*) adjacent to the common longitudinal end of the first and second side edges.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8, 14, 20, 21-24, 29-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooprider in view of Boudet (3950580).

Cooprider, as discussed above, fails to teach the presence of a plurality of liners positioned over the at least one strip of adhesive material and adjacent to one a first one of the plurality of side edges with one of the plurality of liners located between the

Art Unit: 1772

first one of the plurality of side edges and another one of the plurality of liners. Boudet discloses sheet with a plurality of liners (4, 5) positioned over the at least one strip of adhesive material and adjacent to one a first one of the plurality of side edges with one of the plurality of liners located between the first one of the plurality of side edges and another one of the plurality of liner (as shown in the drawings). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to utilize Boudet's teaching of using a plurality of liners , as claimed in the invention of Cooprider with the motivation to provide for selectively adjusting the adhesiveness.

For claim 2, Cooprider discloses tha the sheet is opaque paper.

For claim 4, the adhesive in Cooprider is pressure sensitive adhesive.

As for claim 5, see Cooprider, col. 5, line 17-20, wherein it is stated that the adhesive along edge 21, extends from one side edge to the other only partially because the adhesive (4) along a side edge (24) is shown to extend to the end.

For claim 6, Boudet teaches, in col. 1, lines 47-50, a plurality of adhesive strips and plurality of liners thereover.

For claim 7, Cooprider, in figure-1, shows that the adhesive strip defines a width that is less than the width of the opaque sheet.

As for claim 8, the adhesive extends substantially from one longitudinal end of one of the plurality of side edges to the other longitudinal end of the one of the plurality of side edges (col. 5, line 47-50).

Art Unit: 1772

For claim 14, it would have been obvious matter of design choice to modify Boudet by providing plurality of adhesive strips adjacent a second side edge, with respective release liners, based on duplication of parts.

For claim 20, adhesive strip with plurality of release liner would have been obvious matter of design choice modification of Cooprider in view of Boudet, as explained hereinabove.

As for claims 21-22 dependent from claim 7, said claims have been explained hereinabove for claims 1-2.

For claims 23-24, dependent from claim 14, said claims have been explained hereinabove for claims 1-2.

For claim 29, the sheet size is disclosed in Cooprider, as explained hereinabove.

For claim 30, Boudet teaches that the plurality of release liners are spaced.

Regarding claim 31, the plurality of spaced liners are parallel to one another.

As for claims 32 and 33, the sheet of Boudet can be rotated by 90 degrees to provide said plurality of spaced release liners vertically spaced and parallel to one another.

Regarding claim 34, the sheet of Cooprider is a printable sheet and can have print thereon (col. 7, lines 35-37).

With respect to the use of a particular printer, it is directed to an intended use of an apparatus which is not deemed to be of positive limitation for a product claim.

Art Unit: 1772

10. Claims 15, 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable Cooprider.

Cooprider, as discussed above, and as shown in figure-1, has a common longitudinal end (intersecting side edges 24 and 21) with respective release liner. However, Cooprider fails to teach that the liners have mitered ends adjacent to the common end. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Cooprider by providing mitered ends shape to the liners for aesthetic appeal and/or facilitating the removability thereof. A change of shape is found to be within the level of one of ordinary skill in the art.

Claims 25-26, have been addressed hereinbefore for the paper sheet with particular size.

### ***Response to Arguments***

11. Applicant is thanked for noticing the inadvertent error in rejecting the dependent claims 21 and 22. Siad typographical error has been corrected and the instant Office Action has been made non-final.

Applicants' arguments regarding Kroll, Phillips nd Rudin references are moot in view of the withdrawal of said references as explained hereinabove.



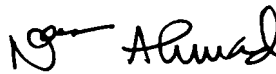
Art Unit: 1772

**Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nasser Ahmad whose telephone number is 571-272-1487. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and on alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye can be reached on 571-272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Nasser Ahmad 8/6/07  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1772

N. Ahmad.  
August 5, 2007.